

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 248 - SB 312**

February 9, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Increases the maximum fine for contempt of court from \$50 to \$100.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

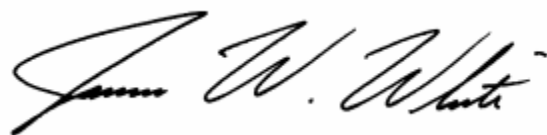
#### **Increase Local Govt. Revenues – Not Significant**

Assumptions:

- There will not be a sufficient number of additional fines for local governments to experience any significant increase in revenues.
- State constitutional right to jury trial for fines in excess of \$50 does not apply in contempt cases. *Cf. Ahern (Pierotti) v. Ahern*, 15 S.W.3d 73 (Tenn. 2000) (criminal contempt is punishable as an inherent necessary power of the court and there is no right to a jury trial for a contempt charge).

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director